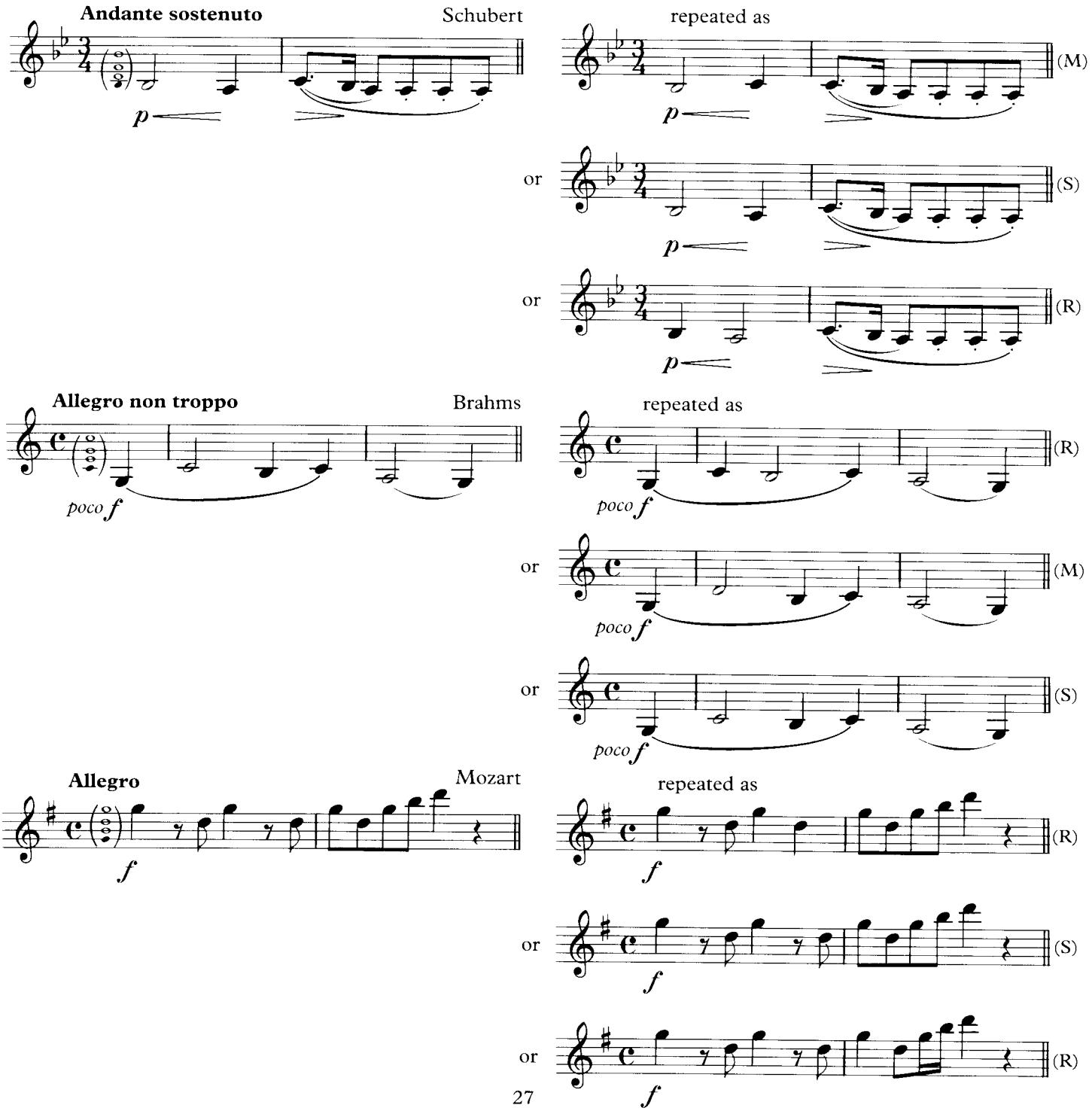
VISIT…

Test 2C: Noticing differences

'To recognise a rhythmic or melodic change to a two-bar phrase in a major key played twice by the examiner, with the change being made in the second playing. Candidates will be required to recognise and tap, sing or describe the change. The key-chord and tonic will first be sounded and the pulse indicated. The examiner will be prepared to play both versions of the phrase a second time if necessary.'

In Grade 1, only rhythmic changes had to be identified. Now, in Grade 2, this is extended to include melodic changes, but tests will not have both in the same example. However, the candidate will be expected to recognise which it is, rhythmic or melodic, and then, as before, show the difference by illustration or explanation.

This exercise is invaluable for singing and instrumental pupils, because it helps them to listen more attentively and to spot their own mistakes before they become a habit.

Practise first to spot whether it is a rhythmic or melodic difference. It is also useful to include examples which do *not* have a change to remove the guessing element. The following are a mixture of all three and are marked 'R' where there is a rhythmic change, 'M' where there is a melodic change, and 'S' where there is no difference.